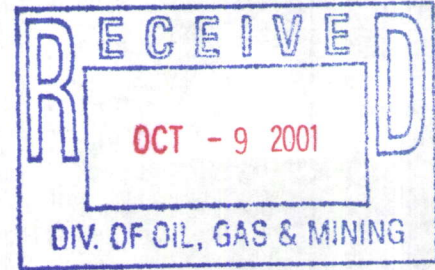


m/41/009

**INSPECTION REPORT**

**CASE FILE:** UTU-71500, Sigurd Plan of Operations  
**OPERATOR:** Georgia-Pacific Corporation  
**LEGAL:** T. 22-23 S., R. 1 W., SLM  
**INSPECTOR:** Michael K. Jackson, Geologist  
**DATE of INSPECTION:** September 6, 2001  
**DATE of REPORT:** September 25, 2001



On September 6, 2001, an inspection was made of mining-related, surface disturbances under Georgia-Pacific Corporation (GP) on unpatented, mining claims on federal land. The mining-related disturbances are included under GP's plan of operations for the Sigurd area. In addition to myself, the following people were involved in the inspection:

Russell Harms, Environmental Engineer, G-P Gypsum Corporation, North Las Vegas, Nevada  
Jerry Dastrup, local contractor  
Lynn Kunzler, Senior Reclamation Specialist, DOGM  
Doug Jensen, Mining Engineer, DOGM  
Paul Baker, Biologist, DOGM

The purpose of the inspection was to discuss and review the reclamation standards for specific areas that will be reclaimed as part of the closure of the project areas under the plan of operations. GP has indicated that the company will be closing the wallboard plant and will not be mining in the Sigurd area in the foreseeable future.

The plan of operations includes five main, mining areas: Western claims southern area (South quarry) Kings Meadow claims, the Western claims northern area (wallboard landfill), Crescent claims, and Gabus claims. GP refers to the Western claims southern area as the South quarry. All the disturbed lands are federal land, except the Crescent claims which are on patented mining claims.

In preparation for this review, GP has submitted GPS survey maps of the disturbed lands under the cover of two letters. The first letter, dated July 30, 2001, includes: Figure A, a property-wide, overview of the mined areas; Figure B, the Crescent patented mining claim group; and Figure C with the wallboard landfill (labeled as A) and the Western (South) quarry (labeled as B). The second letter, dated August 23, 2001, includes: an overview map of the mined areas with the patented claim group marked as Figure A and the unpatented claim groups marked as Figure B. The unpatented claim group on Figure B includes the South quarry and the Kings Meadow claim area. Three areas within the Kings Meadow claims are labeled as A, B, and C.

Each claim area contains more than one quarry. A quarry varies from less than an acre to more than 5 acres. Each quarry has a highwall, bench, dump, and access (haul) road. The height of a highwall is usually 10's of feet. Roads vary from 20 to 40 feet in width.

**South Quarry**

This quarry is still active; GP plans at least two more rounds of blasting before this quarry will be mined out. That mining is planned for the late summer to fall 2001.

The South quarry includes at least three quarries or pits: one on the south, one on the east, and one on the north. A dump on the west side of the area has partially filled a small draw or drainage. Material in that dump is at angle of repose, and recontouring work will include reducing the slope angle and a terrace or two to break the slope. Excess material will be pulled back to backfill the south pit as much as practical. Some large boulders that have rolled down the dump will be left as scatter material. The highwall and outcrop on the west side of the quarry will be reduced to a lower angle as the pit is backfilled. The quarry on the north will be filled by pushing in unconsolidated material from a ridge adjacent to the quarry. Very fine, material between the quarry on the south and the one on the north will be used as cover and topsoil to the extent practical. The quarry on the east will be filled with material between the south and east quarry areas as well as material in a ridge to the east of the quarry. Slopes will be reduced to 3:1 to the extent practical. Overall, contouring should blend in with the existing knobs of outcrop. DOGM recommended that after the site has been recontoured, contour ripping will be necessary to roughen the site. If a broadcast seeder is mounted on the ripper bar of the cat, seeding and countour ripping the site could be completed with a single pass. Other areas, not accessible to the dozer, will be hand-broadcasted. A few islands of undisturbed land between the pits will not be disturbed and will serve as a seed bank for natural vegetation.

The access road runs from Highway 24 to the South quarry. The road will be ripped, then an excavator will be used to pull in the bermed material as topsoil. Seed will be applied in the last pass. Large boulders will be used to block the traffic at the turn off from Highway 24.

### **Kings Meadow**

This area contains numerous small quarries within the areas that GP has mapped as A, B, and C. In general, a track hoe will be used to reduce highwalls and to re-slope dumps or benches. In some (2-3) quarries, no work will be required as natural vegetation has succeeded onto the disturbed area, the existing contour is not inconsistent with natural outcrop, and re-opening the access or bench would disturb acceptably re-established vegetation. Access roads will be re-contoured with an excavator that will scallop or moon-scape the road by removing the bed and bringing in bermed material. Where the road has well established vegetation and no erosion, the area will not be re-disturbed. The two major access roads into the area will be blocked by large boulders. Seed will be applied by broadcasting.

### **Western claims northern area (Wall board Landfill)**

The reject wallboard landfill is acceptably re-contoured, has some grasses and other vegetation established to stabilize the cover material. The operator had used available cover material when the dump was closed about 10 years ago. I believe that BLM gave a verbal okay to the reclamation work in the early 1990's, and I will need to check the case file.

### **Access (Haul) Roads**

The road from the new County Landfill Road to Old County Road is a new road under the plan of operations and is at least 30 feet wide with a berm on either side. GP will need to rip and bring in the berm, then seed. Large boulders will be necessary at the north and south ends to block traffic to keep vehicles off this road once reclaimed.

North of the old county road, the road has been graded and again is 30 feet wide. No decision was made

at this time. The road probably pre-dates the federal and state regulations, but has been used as a haul road to the mill.

A main haul road runs northward from the GP and USG mills to mining areas on patented claims. A small portion of this road is on federal land. No decision was made at this time.

### **Seed Application**

A seed mix and rate is approved in the plan of operations. That prescription will be used for reclamation.

### **Areas Not Inspected**

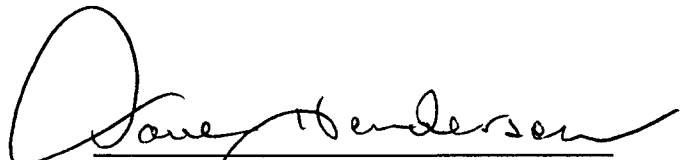
The Crescent and Gabus areas were not inspected on this date. GP will have more work than will probably accomplished this fall with the South quarry and the Kings Meadow area. GP has asserted that no disturbances exist at the Gabus area, and that will need to be verified at a later date. The Crescent area is under state regulations not federal.

### **Inspection Time**

The inspection took about 5 hours on the ground, exclusive of travel time. Travel time for BLM is only about 10 minutes to the GP office, but 2½ hours for DOGM.



Management Acknowledgment:

  
Dave Henderson, Associate Field Manager